

Ninety – Sixth Legislature – First Session – 1999 Introducer's Statement of Intent LB 295

Chairperson: Senator Kermit A. Brashear

Committee: Judiciary Date of Hearing: 03/10/99

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Section 29-3602 of the current state statutes allows any county attorney to establish, with the concurrence of the county board, pretrial diversion programs. LB 295 grants city attorneys this same authority, permitting them also to create pretrial diversion programs with the assent of their local governing bodies.

At present, the City of Lincoln cooperates with the county attorney's office in using the S.T.O.P. Program for traffic violations in Lancaster County. Under LB 295, however, Lincoln and other cities would be empowered to establish pretrial diversion programs both for local code enforcement and to deal with municipal violations. A given county may lack ordinances similar to those found in the codes of its cities; likewise, it may not address the same type or quantity of violations. LB 295 would enable a city attorney faced with such a situation to approach the local governing board or council, requesting the creation of pretrial diversion programs tailored to meet the specific needs of that particular community.

Principal Introducer:	
	Senator Carol L. Hudkins